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WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AGITATE ! EDUCATE ! ORGANIZE !

Rec'd April 2, Sept 15, 1923

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INDUSTRIAL UNREST REMEDY NOTHING NEW

—President Compers.

Washington, Jan. 3.—President Gompers has issued the following statement on the preliminary statement of the president's industrial conference:

"I have read the tentative report of the industrial commission and except for its opening declaration finds nothing new and little of interest.

"In the opening statement the report set forth: The right relationship between employer and employee in large industries can be secured by the collective organization of that relationship. But the report fails to make recognition of and the application of this truth. Both employers and employes should be organized in order to become responsible parties in any system of mediation or arbitration—otherwise the arbitration tribunal must deal with individuals instead of organized groups. The principle of representation depends upon organization.

"The failure of the commission to recognize definitely the organizations of responsible parties—and the fatal reference that penalty clauses in pending legislation are introduced by labor workers in ceasing their employment should be eliminated.

"That such conferences favors the enactment of beneficial features of the bills which tend to establish better relations between the employer and the carriers.

"That the beneficial clauses should be extended to the sleeping car and Pullman company employes."

OPPOSE COMPANY "UNION."

New York, Jan. 2.—The company "union" of the Interborough Rapid Transit company threatens to strike for higher wages and hours if it gives notice that the strike of last summer, which was settled by the company, cannot be duplicated. At that time, when the bong fide street car men's union was about to organize these workers, a lodge disguised them on the property, and one "union" on the property is sufficient. Now Mayor Hylan says:

"I notice that Hedley of the Interborough and Connolly of the brotherhood of interborough employees which organization is controlled by the Interborough Rapid Transit company, are again active. I suppose they want the fare increased. Here is the same Connolly and the same Hedley who last summer started similar officials to increase fares. When the public officials did not act, Connolly went to the brotherhood's meeting room, which was in a building controlled or owned by the Interborough, and called the strike over the Interborough's private telephone wires, and tied up the whole Interborough system, with inconvenienced Bundreds of thousands of people."

JUSTICE NOT DENIED.

New York, Jan. 2.—A committee appointed by municipal judges bitterly assail a report issued by a committee of the Carnegie foundation in which it was charged that it is impossible for the poor to get justice in the courts.

The report of the Carnegie foundation was largely the work of a Boston attorney. Elihu Root wrote the foreword in which it was stated that justice has been put beyond the reach of the poor, announcing that it was time to put the house in order.

In a lengthy report the municipal judges say:

"The Carnegie foundation seems to have been in a hurry and to have had a preconceived notion. Any member of the Boston bar to permit him to speak of conditions existing throughout the United States as he did in connection with the task of securing facts for the report, as we are advised was the case. However much of good the report may contain, and it does contain much valuable information, the author certainly sought to color the facts to suit the public for sensation. To secure this sensation, accuracy and fair play were sacrificed, as we shall demonstrate."

LAST SUFF CONVENTION.

New York, Jan. 2.—Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the National American Woman Suffrage association, has issued the call for that organization's annual convention at Chicago, from February 12 to 16.

"This is the last convention days our members and friends have been summoned to annual conventions to disenthrall the country," she says in her common cause, but this time they are called to relase that the struggle is over. Of all the conventions held within the past 15 years this will be the most momentous, for few live to see the realization of hopes to which they have devoted their lives, and that privilege is ours."

Among the leading incidents of the long struggle, Mrs. Catt says: "Let us inquire together how best we can now serve our beloved nation."

The federal suffrage amendment has been ratified by 33 states. Thirteen more must set before it becomes effective.

SUGAR COSTS LESS.

Washington, Jan. 2.—The department of commerce announces that Mexican producers of sugar are paid an average of 6 cents a pound for their product. Granulated sugar of good grade is selling in Mexico City at from 10 to 11 cents a pound early in December.

Recently sugar was quoted at 19c per pound in New York, this details, it New York prices were to determine the Mexican price, the sugar would be worth in Mexico City about 12 cents, American money, after freight, insurance, duty, commission, demurrage and other charges were paid.

TO ENFORCE LABOR LAW.

New York, Jan. 2.—The state industrial commission has ordered hotel managers, superintendents of apartment buildings and office buildings to allow their elevator employes to have one day off in seven.

When the order was issued it created a public sensation, but it was said that all employes were affected. It was later discovered that the general seven-day provision will affect only those with as the law applies only to elevators.

COLORED WORKERS UNITE.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Jan. 2.—Colored employees of floor and cereal mills in the south are organizing. Four are affiliated with the United Brewery, Flour, Cereal and Soft Drink Workers, a unit of the A. F. of L.

WHO'LL ANSWER THIS?

Chattanooga, Tenn., Jan. 2.—Editor Cocke of the Labor World inquires:

"Which strike caused the price of sugar to go from 36 cents to 12 1-2 cents a pound?"

STRIKE BAN ATTACKED; WANT RAILROADS HELD

Washington, Jan. 2.—Opposition to anti-strike legislation and a demand that the railroads be held for a period of not less than two years were conclusions of a conference of organized workers at A. F. of L. headquarters, which was called by President Gompers to discuss railroad legislation. Executives of the railroad shop employes' organizations and the railroad brotherhoods were present. At the adjournment of the conference, President Gompers issued this statement on the conference:

"That it is the sense of the conference that the control of the railroads should be exercised by the government of the United States for a period of not less than two years in order that a proper test may be made as to government control.

"That such test has not been given a fair opportunity during war times since.

"This conference is opposed to legislation making strikes of workers unlawful. It is the opinion of the conference that penalty clauses in pending legislation as introduced by labor workers in ceasing their employment should be eliminated.

"That such conference favors the enactment of beneficial features of the bills which tend to establish better relations between the employes and the carriers.

"That the beneficial clauses should be extended to the sleeping car and Pullman company employes."

Industrial Conference Issues Tentative Statement

Washington, Jan. 3.—The industrial conference called by the president has issued a preliminary statement in which is outlined methods for the adjustment of industrial disputes. This conference succeeds the first conference that split last October on the question of collective bargaining. The present conference asks that its statement be given "considerate attention by interested individuals and organizations throughout the country that constructive criticisms may be considered."

The conference "does not deem it useful at this time" to discuss the causes of industrial unrest, but believes "its most important immediate contribution is the suggestion of practical measures which will serve to avert or postpone industrial conflicts."

The plan provides for a national industrial tribunal, regional boards of adjustment, regional boards of inquiry, and umpires.

The nine members of the national industrial tribunal will be appointed by the president. Three of them will be recommended by the secretary of commerce and three by the secretary of labor. This board will be the court of last resort.

Regional boards of adjustment shall act where a dispute can not be settled by the various processes now resorted to. These regional boards are formed as follows: The country will be divided into regions, 17 being suggested, and the president will appoint a chairman for each region. The president will approve a list of employes and employers which will be drawn an equal number of representatives of both sides to serve as members of these regional boards. The secretary of commerce and the secretary of labor will confer with the employers and employes of the various regions and then recommend names to the president for membership on the boards.

If the regional board of adjustment fails to reach a determination in a dispute it shall refer it to an umpire by a unanimous vote of the board, or upon appeal to the national industrial tribunal.

If either side to a controversy fails to select representatives to appear before the regional board of adjustment, the regional chairman or the maintenance of public safety shall organize a regional board of inquiry, whose members shall be selected in the same manner as the regional board of adjustment. An investigation will be made and a report, which shall be a public record, will be filed with the secretary of commerce, the secretary of labor and the national industrial tribunal.

Summed up, the members of these boards are appointed by the president. In some cases he will act on recommendations by the secretaries of commerce and the secretary of labor, who will confer with the employers and employes of the various regions and then recommend names to the president for membership on the boards.

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If either side to a controversy

200,000 BABIES DIE; LOW WAGES IS CAUSE

Washington, Jan. 2.—In his annual report, Surgeon General Blue Willard includes the oft-repeated statement by the children's bureau, published in this department, that low wages is responsible for the deaths of babies.

It is stated that over 200,000 babies less than 1 year old die annually and that these infant deaths are controllable almost without exception.

"Poverty is a constant condition of the highest infant mortality rates and the rates steadily improve as income increases to a good living standard," the report says.

"More than 16,000 mothers die yearly from causes incident to childbearing, and ill health is suffered by a vast number of others from the same causes. These deaths and disabilities are known to be needless, among women who can command adequate care their proportion is surprisingly small.

"In the interest of humanity and of sound national economy adequate care for maternity should be universally available. The lowering rates of infant mortality in the United States for the last few years are encouraging. They indicate the value of many educational, public and volunteer activities for child welfare, but they indicate by far too slow. New Zealand still shows a much lower rate than our best states, and the rate there is but eighth from the head of the list of countries judged by the registration character of their infant mortality rates.

"The best available world figures for maternal mortality show that Sweden is the lowest, and Australia down the list; that is, the life of the mother is safer in 37 other countries than in the United States."

THE AUTOCRATIC IDEA.

New York, Jan. 3.—The belief—or alleged belief—of industrial autocrats that the public is afraid of the rule of labor leaders," just as the autocrat fears the lives of the people, was expressed by Judge Gary in a speech in this city.

Judge Gary said the steel trust head, "did not represent antagonism between capital and labor." He said: In most, if not all, instances, they were precipitated by union labor leaders for the purpose of profit. The differences, disputes and contests have been between union leaders and the managers of business."

The recent nationwide miners' strike and the vote of Cleveland steel strikers are denials of the industrial autocrats' belief that labor leaders are "controlled." In the miners' case these workers refused to return to work, despite the command of a federal judge that the miners' officials withdraw a strike order issued by them.

In the case of Cleveland steel strikers, they were advised by officials to call off the strike. The strikers refused the officials' advice and voted to continue the strike.

TO NATIONALIZE MINES.

Brussels, Belgium, Jan. 2.—Nationalization of the coal mines has been decided at the congress of Belgium miners, which began here the first session was recently discovered. The miners declared in favor of presenting these resolutions before their body.

To refrain from granting new concessions or extensions of old ones, to nationalize as soon as possible the new coal basins, and industrially the mines now worked are the resolutions for the exploitation of the new coal basins, and industrially the mines now worked are the resolutions proposed of an equal number of representatives of the government, the miners and the manufacturing and other consumers.

NEW COMPENSATION RULE.

Olympia, Wash., Jan. 2.—Revising its schedule of rates during the past three years, the state industrial insurance commission has raised the compensation workmen having claims under the workmen's compensation act. The new rates will be in full effect on employers in particular cases have also recompensed for injuries in accidents. The commission ruled previously that when employers had been compelled to pay their employes by the commission was not required to take further action.

CARPENTERS RAISE WAGES.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 2.—Through an agreement with the Master Builders' association, building office buildings to allow their elevator employes to have one day off in seven.

When the order was issued it created a public sensation, but it was said that all employes were affected. It was later discovered that the general seven-day provision will affect only those with as the law applies only to elevators.

LONG HOURS INJURE; OUTPUT DECREASED

New York, Jan. 3.—What is known as "speeded" work is referred to as secured by paying good wages in connection with long hours, but that they must not work too long at a time and the monotony of their toil must be relieved by short vacations, says the Medical Journal in an editorial on "Health and Work."

It is stated that scientific investigations of war workers in Great Britain that munitions should be made with the utmost rapidity. Hence, women and girls were requisitioned for the purpose and were urged to work long hours.

"At first the results were satisfactory, but soon it was found that the output per hour fell off when the hours were increased, and that it was not especially satisfactory so far as quality was concerned. Accidents were then set afoot to determine as nearly as possible the length of time that fresh workers can work without reaching the point of fatigue, when of output and of the work deteriorates and the health of the worker suffers.

"In the early days of the war, when the emergency was great, men, women and children worked as long hours as they could. At first, no week-end rest was allowed, but for 6, 7 or even more hours, a week. Moreover, the work was frequently of a very monotonous or very exhausting character. It became obvious to the government officials that the output which is required of them is an economic as well as a physical mistake to push the delicately adjusted machinery of the human body to lapses controlled by the mind known as the human machine."

CO-OP. THEORY GROWS.

Fort Scott, Kan., Jan. 2.—At a conference attended by 100 trade unionists of Kansas and Oklahoma, it was decided to establish, in Oklahoma, a new co-op. organization, to be known as the National Co-Operative Manufacturing association. Likewise it will be operated under the Rochdale system whereby goods at the prevailing market price and then returns dividends at the end of the year to the purchasers. These dividend returns are based on the amount of purchases made by the stockholders rather than on stock held.

At the meeting in this city fraternal delegates exchanged greetings with the Kansas State grange, which is also meeting in this city.

Whittier, Cal., Jan. 2.—Organized oil workers have started a co-op. store at this place and are selling staple lines in public.

Bloomington, Ill., Jan. 3.—The Co-operative society in this city has earned $9,767.42 for its members since Jan. 1, 1919, the date this movement was started.

BANK PROFITS STAGGER

New York, Jan. 2.—Publicity is given to the business of national banks of all in this city, but the profits of these institutions are staggering. The financial paper has compiled a list of some of these profits, for the last fiscal year of the banks:

Chase National Bank, $7,500,000; Bank of Commerce, $4,000,000; First National, $7,175,000; National City, $5,200,000; National Bank, $2,111,000; Mechanics and Metals, $2,000,000; Guaranty Trust, $3,781,000; Liberty National, $1,952,000; Bankers Trust, $2,000,000; Equitable, $1,252,000.

The National Park bank earned 9 per cent on its capital; the Seaboard, 32 per cent; the Hanover, 15 per cent; the Harriman, 17 per cent, and the Gotham, 62 per cent.

PRINTERS GAIN.

Tacoma, Wash., Jan. 2.—An arbitration board has granted an increase to paper printers $1.25a a day for 8 hours' work. The rate is now $6.50 a day for work of seven hours; night work, $6.65 for seven hours.

Erie, Pa., Jan. 2.—The Typographical union has secured a raise of $ a week. The new rates are: $ a week for day work and $ for night work.

Mt. Vernon, N. Y., Jan. 2.—Through arbitration the printers in this city have raised wages $ a week. A one-year contract has been signed.

TO VISIT PORTO RICO.

Washington, Jan. 2.—Acting under authority of the last A. F. of L. convention, President Gompers has appointed a commission to visit Porto Rico and inquire into labor conditions in that island. The members of the commission are Anthony McAndrew, president of the International Typographical union, and Peter J. Brady of New York.

COSSACKS NOT PROBED.

Denver, Jan. 2.—The special session of the legislature has adjourned and the demand of organized labor that the state councils be probed was ignored. The authorities insist that Scattered transactions in connection with the councils should be explained.

COURT BARS PICKETS; SAYS STRIKE IS OVER

Toledo, Ohio, Jan. 2.—Federal Judge Killits has issued a sweeping order as an injunction judge by declaring that the strike of shop men on lines of the automobile company is over and that pickets will not be permitted.

The court declares that workers who remained off the pay roll could not be classed as employes of the company.

Judge Killits had previously intimated that he would take this action because, he said, he could not force men to be responsible. Trade unionists have let this court know that the best way he can acquit himself of responsibility in the Overland strike is to cease issuing sweeping injunctions of public officials and permit workers to control their own affairs.

The strike started last May when the company attempted to segregate the work days. Previously the company had attempted to install an alleged profit sharing system. Under working conditions were also objectionable.

One of the company's selling agencies appealed to Judge Killets for an injunction to prevent picketing. Its business was interfered with. The court enjoined the picketing instead and placing a court official in charge of the plant. Several citizens have been deputized as assistants.

New Judge Killets again steps to the front and officially declares the strike off.

WORKERS NOT SLACKERS.

Harrisburg, Pa., Jan. 2.—Backing his statement with statistics before a meeting of educators, Arthur E. Holder, of Washington, declared that "the loose charges now too glibly made that labor, as a class, is composed of people are idlers and slackers." The speaker is a member of the federal board for vocational education and the International Association of Machinists, and is frequently its representative of the A. F. of L.

The unionist showed that with per cent of the population engaged this country in 1913 produced 23 per cent of the coal, 39 per cent of the iron, 23 per cent of the copper, 25 per cent of cotton, 45 per cent of paper, 25 per cent of gold and silver, 30 per cent and 50 per cent of steel products.

In 1918 there was added to the industry produced values equal to $1,604 per capita and in 1910 produced $1,325 per capita or 21 per cent less or 17 per cent in 60 years.

Claims Holder, "America's present industrial discontent portends ill for the country were denied by the charges.

"Threat," he said, "is nothing to be alarmed about, but is rather a sign of approaching prosperity."

MEAT TRUST NOT CURBED.

Boston, Jan. 3.—The Washington correspondent to the Evening Record says that the agreement between Attorney General Palmer and the "big five" meat packers "if effectually carried out, eliminates the 'big five' as a factor, but does not necessarily eliminate it as a meat trust."

In the opinion of officials in the nation's capital the "big five" include the packers' cases from the beginning, says the correspondent, these packers are still left supreme in the meat packing industry, and are further left with the field to themselves with every meat substitute except fish.

The correspondent says the legislation strictly defining and limiting the operations of the packing industry is not regarded by the government's compromise."

STRIKEBREAKER ARMY.

Yonkers, N. Y., Jan. 3.—The editor of the Yonkers Statesman has sounded note in the tumult and shouting against industrial unrest—he would organize an army of strikebreakers that "would be shipped to that home folk united by air plane, to affected districts.

As a starter the plan would apply to public service utilities, which employ many thousands, declares the editor.

The paper has attracted attention in other times, especially when a local street car company was attempting to put through a fare raise over the street car men.

COAL BOARD MEETS.

Washington, Jan. 1.—The coal commission appointed by the president after the miners' strike was declared off, is holding its first session today. A study of the coal industry will be made, wages studied and other questions considered. The members of the commission are: Henry Robinson, California banker, who represents the public; John P. White, ex-president of the United Mine Workers, representing the miners, and Bernhardt Feale, Pennsylvania coal owner, representing the operators.

MILK CONTROL URGED.

New York, Jan. 2.—State regulation of the milk industry on the theory that it is a public utility of "infinitely more importance than the operation of railroads" is urged in the report of the special fact-finding recommendations made to the governor by the state price milk committee, which has been investigating the high cost of milk.

TWO PLATOON FOR FIREMEN.

Richmond, Va., Jan. 2.—Progress is made in the four-years' duty to secured labor for the firemen's two-platoon system. The director of public safety now favors it and his recommendation will be passed upon by the city council.

INDUSTRIAL PEACE THROUGH UNIONISM

Seattle, Jan. 2.—Industrial peace is declared by Governor Hart to depend upon the right of labor to maintain efficient unions, declared W. M. Short, president of the Washington state federation of labor in reply to the governor's address before the legislature.

"The trade union movement," said the trade unionist, "cannot, and will not, guarantee that the year 1920 will be a year of industrial peace. The responsible for the present industrial strife will find reasons from their position or unfair antagonism to the trade union movement. I agree to meet in fair, equitable and fair basis, giving fair consideration to its aspirations rather than to pursue the policy now bogey of breaking down the union shop, the only movement in the history of man has ever secured any advancement, and on which it must depend in the future for protection and progress.

"The principle of collective bargaining has become firmly established and accepted among all classes of people imbued with the spirit of democracy. Based on the principle of patient effort and sacrifice of the trade unionist movement, only those who have been able to hold themselves above the level have failed, in the face of public sentiment, to repudiate it.

"Only such institutions as the United States steel corporation, headed by Judge Gary, and a few other great, powerful financial and industrial corporations, who have established a reign of terror through espionage and application of democratic law, have the right to, and refuse to accept the sound and equitable principle of collective bargaining.

"This is a heavy burden that the organized labor movement has always had to bear—years of ostracism, persecution, condemnation and abuse, before the public mind constructive principles for which it has always stood have come to be accepted and practiced by the world. The beginning, had been loudest in their condemnation."

DOESN'T PRAISE BURLESON.

San Francisco, Jan. 2.—Editor Barry of the Star can see nothing praiseworthy in Postmaster General Burleson for General Burleson that in seven years he has changed a deficit of more than $30,000,000 to a surplus of over $2,000,000. The Star says:

"Claims Burleson's fight against increased pay for shamefully underpaid postal employes, his boasted economy is something he should be ashamed. Congress insisted that pay, despite Burleson's protests.

"After all, the purpose of a department is not necessarily to make money and show a surplus, but to give service at the lowest rate consistent with good service, well-paid employes and sane economy. Therein five" meat packers "if effectually carried out, eliminates the 'big five' as a factor, but does not necessarily eliminate it as a meat trust."

In the opinion of officials in the nation's capital the "big five" include the packers' cases from the beginning, says the correspondent, these packers are still left supreme in the meat packing industry, and are further left with the field to themselves with every meat substitute except fish.

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CAUSES FOR INDUSTRIAL UNREST AFFECTS ENTIRE SOCIAL FABRIC

Chicago, Jan. 1.—In enumerating causes for industrial unrest at the annual meeting of the American Economic association, dissatisfaction with wages, hours and earnings were given first place by Dr. Royal Meeker, commissioner United States bureau of labor statistics.

Other causes cited by the federal official are:

Lack of faith on the part of the workers that they are not receiving a fair share of the product of industry. A widespread belief that workers are being exploited by owners, employers and their agents. The trend that high prices has greatly strengthened this belief even among those workers who have secured wage increases in excess of increases in the cost of living. Many thousands of workmen who have profited greatly by the favorable conditions of the war, naturally believe that they are worse off than before the war, or at least that the employers have gained more than the workmen, and hence the workmen, as a class, envy the employers.

"Dissatisfaction with the management of industry. A feeling that not only are the workers being exploited, but that the enterprisers are not really enterprising and their managers not to capable as has been generally supposed. Work is made needlessly burdensome and uninteresting. The production is thereby curtailed. The workers feel that industries are being conducted from a distance by men who have little or no first-hand knowledge of conditions, and who do not understand the workers' point of view. The unrest is deeply seated. These grievances are due in longer part to big business organization which has brought about what may justly be called 'absentee landlordism' in industry.

"Dissatisfaction with the nature of their work. A feeling that industry is a tread mill for workers of all kinds, but especially for manual workers, and that the opportunities for successful and permanent escape into managerial, employing and capitalistic positions are scarce and growing scarcer every day.

"Labor unrest, in the present-day meaning of the term, is a natural and inevitable result of the industrial revolution, machine production, the factory system, the modern shop establishments and the centering of industrial control in the hands of managers of finance whose offices are in the big banks and other buildings of the centers of trade and finance.

"Cities in the modern sense were practically unknown until the industrial units had grown to such a size as to create formidable barriers between the workers on the one side and the employers, managers and managers on the other.

"Lack of interest in work grows out of absentee ownership. The modern factory system, highly industrialized only or principally in dividends, employed experts, scientific management, standardization, all of the old-time workman's interest in his work.

"A good deal is said about the worker's psychology, as though the worker were a species of strange beast with a peculiar psychology all of his own. There is no more psychology of employers and managers. It is the psychology of the worker is the psychology of the employer and the psychology that underlies all forces at work in our distressing frequency."

RETURN RAILROADS TO PRIVATE OWNERS

Washington, Jan. 2.—The president has ordered the return of the railroads to their owners on March 1 next. The roads affected include terminals, sleeping and parlor cars, private cars, elevators, express, telegraph and telephone lines and all other equipment used upon or operated as part of such railroads.

The law permits the president to return the railroads at any time after the proclamation of peace. The A. F. of L. railroad brotherhoods and various farmers' organizations have urged the president to hold the railroads for a year, or until January 1, 1921, that government operation of these properties might be given a fair test under normal conditions.

The president's proclamation finds the railroads in better condition to employes in a complicated state. A wage increase for employes asked for substantial increases. Last August the president awarded the shop men 60 per cent of the increase requested to these workers that the government was not prepared to grant it, but demonstrate that its policy to reduce the high cost of living would prove effective.

At that time the president said: "I am willing to make every effort to bring the cost of living down should fail, after we have had time enough to exhaust every means of failure, it will of course be necessary to increase the wages of labor, giving us a permanent basis of adjustment, but that question should be readjusted along with the rest."

The shop men are now insisting that the 60 per cent be made permanent, and a conference will be held with the president on this matter in March.

UNIONISM JUSTIFIED.

New York, Jan. 2.—Writing in the American Teacher, Florence E. Mercer, vice president of the Grade Teachers' federation of New York, declares that if trade unionism had rendered no other service to humanity, than that of bringing the teachers by its efforts in behalf of women and children.

"The chief effort of the trade unions in ameliorating the hardships of women at work," she says, "is in direction of excluding them from certain kinds of employment, in limiting hours, the sanitary conditions in which they work, and in securing the right of their working day. This women are no longer employed in mines, nor are they allowed to work at night in factories which injure their health or seriously endanger their morals. Likewise women themselves are rapidly joining unions already formed and are also organizing into separate bodies.

MAIL BAG WORK.

Washington, Jan. 2.—Women employed by the postoffice department in handling mail sacks have asked the congressional commission on reclassification to favor wave increases, declaring that the mail sacks now are employed and their weight ranges from 41.75 to 100 a day. Witnesses showed that repairing mail sacks is an unusually difficult task, and that many of the result of continuous treadmill work, including operations which women themselves are rapidly joining unions already formed and are also organizing into separate bodies.

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TO END BUILDING STRIKES.

Denver, Jan. 2.—The building trades council has approved a plan to end strikes in the building industry, and the question is to be submitted to the unions shortly. The plan provides for the creation of a board consisting of one representative each of the building trades locals and an equal number of employers. This board shall adjust all grievances, and in the event of a deadlock the matter will be referred to arbitration.

UNIONISM WON'T DOWN.

Boston, Jan. 1.—Police Commissioner Curtis announced the police commissioner has ordered dismissed men's union recently, but now it is whispered that recruits who replace the striking policemen will join. The police commissioner has ordered dismissed men's union recently, but now it is whispered that recruits who replace the striking policemen will join.

INJUNCTIONS POSTPONED.

Indianapolis, Jan. 2.—Charges of contempt of court against nearly 200 miners because of an alleged violation of an injunction have been indefinitely postponed by Federal Judge Anderson. The cases against Samuel Howat, president of the Kansas miners, is included with the others.

AGITATE, EDUCATE, ORGANIZE

UNION ACTIVITY URGED.

Pittsburg, Pa., Jan. 1.—In urging greater solidarity and activity among the members of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers, President Tighe made this statement in the last issue of the Amalgamated Journal:

"We have seen the attitude of the corporate powers backed by the financial and commercial interests change from the principle of collective bargaining, the right to bargain for our labor power. We have seen the change in the sentiment assisted by judicial exercises of functions which have for its cease work, we see attempts made by proposed legislative enactments to deprive us of the right to strike, the only effectual means by which we can obtain redress for wrongs imposed on them.

"All these things are living issues before us, and unless we are demonstrate by our activity and genuine earnestness that we are capable to preserve not only for ourselves but for those who come after us the priceless rights of which we can freemen we will not have mastered the situation as a result of intimidation that is expected in the ranks of organized labor."

MOB DIDN'T VIOLATE LAW.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Jan. 2.—The Chattanooga Times that deported Representative Lawson of the State of Men's union, declares that the mob violate any law, because "the case has been grossly exaggerated," and that the investigation of the state of the trade and labor council of the city, which was appointed by the governor to bring the mobbers to justice.

The governor says that the mayor of Memphis and Nashville assured him that the incident was an exaggeration, and that the mayor of the executive, "I have absolutely no evidence of the commission of any crime other than a mere newspaper report and letters from other cities." And then he makes sure that he can prove an alibi for his inaction, the governor says:

Yet, of course, understand that I could not offer a reward for every crime actually committed, for such a course would bankrupt the state."

SHOULD APPLY TO EDITORS.

New York, Jan. 1.—The New-York World editorially declares that United States Senator Frelinghuysen that there is "some secret deal between the miners and coal owners in the recent strike settlement. The World declares that the law which disregarding facts and decency and declares that there is no such a thing as of unrest, but there is more unreason than unrest.

All of which reminds trade unionists that when the miners were the object of attack they found little support in the land the World took a prominent part in this campaign. The miners came out of the strike with their organization intact and the coal barons hunters plead for "facts and decency."

LIMIT FOREIGN LANGUAGES.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 2.—The state supreme court has upheld a law designed to curtail the use of foreign languages in Nebraska schools as an Americanization measure. The law applies to all schools in the state and provides that foreign languages shall not be employed in giving instruction on any subject to pupils in the lower grades. The law also provides that it may not be used as a medium of instruction in any other subjects.

ENFORCING THE LAW.

Friday Harbor, Wash., Jan. 2.—Prosecutor Wright of San Juan county has arrested the editor of the Friday Harbor Journal for advising violence.

The prosecutor attended the recent conference of county prosecutors called by the state attorney general to take drastic action against enemies of law and order. The editor declared that he now called upon to answer for his advocacy of violence, declaring that it would apply to a bunch of revolutionists that can be handled by the courts.

RETAIL CLERKS GAIN.

Dubuque, Iowa, Jan. 1.—Merchants in this city have signed an agreement with the Retail Clerks' union which calls for improved working conditions.

WANT 44-HOUR WEEK.

Chicago, Jan. 1.—Leather workers are asking the Travelers' Goods Employers' association to establish the 44-hour week and raise wages $3 a week.

WIRE MEN WANT MORE.

Cleveland, Ohio, Jan. 2.—Higher wages are demanded by Electrical Workers' union No. 38.

GARMENT WORKERS GAIN.

Chicago, Jan. 2.—Ladies' Garment Workers' union No. 4 signed a union shop agreement with the Harry Blum plant, and these employes have returned to work. Their wage is now $1 an hour for a 44-hour week.